

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PPTE-00 SCA-01 CPR-02 H-03 L-03 VOE-00

TRSE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /037 W
----- 057393

R 251217Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 627

UNCLAS MOSCOW 8797

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, CPRS, CVIS, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET VISA AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO US
OFFICIAL VISITORS

1. EMBASSY WISHES TO REMIND DEPARTMENT THAT SOVIET CUSTOMS OFFICIALS CAN AND DO SOMETIMES REQUIRE CUSTOMS/CURRENCY DECLARATIONS OF VISITING US OFFICIAL AND CODEL REPRESENTATIVES WHO CARRY DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS BUT HAVE NO RPT NO SOVIET DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL VISAS. PRACTICE WAS MOST RECENTLY CONFIRMED JULY 22 WHEN SENATOR ABOUREZK WAS REQUIRED BY SHEREMETYEVO CUSTOMS OFFICIALS TO FILE CURRENCY DECLARATION BECAUSE SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS NOT STAMPED DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL ON VISA IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT.

2. IF USG WISHES TO HAVE US OFFICIAL OR CODEL REPRESENTATIVE VISITING USSR ACCORDED DIPLOMATIC CUSTOMS PRIVILEGES FROM THE MOMENT OF HIS ARRIVAL, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DEPARTMENT OR SPONSORING AGENCY CHECKED VISAS PROVIDED BY SOVIET EMBASSY FOR APPROPRIATE "DIPLOMATIC" OR "OFFICIAL" DESIGNATION. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, SOVIETS RECOGNIZE SUCH STATUS BY SO STAMPING VISA.

3. SOVIET STATUTE ON DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS (MAY 23, 1966) PROVIDES DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES FOR "MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTARY AND GOVERNMENTAL DELEGATIONS" OR "OFFICIALS OF DELEGATIONS" WHO COME TO USSR FOR "INTER-STATE NEGOTIATIONS, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OR WITH OTHER OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS," (ARTICLE 29). EXCEPT IN CASES OF
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PURE TOURISM, CODEL MEMBERS WOULD APPEAR TO BE ENTITLED TO

DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL VISAS UNDER SOVIET LAW.
DUBS

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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